

CRANSTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2005

WESTERN HILLS MIDDLE SCHOOL

400 PHENIX AVENUE

EXECUTIVE SESSION: 6:00 P.M.

PUBLIC SESSION: 7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

The regular monthly meeting of the Cranston School Committee was held on the evening of the above date at Western Hills Middle School with the following members present: Mr. Archetto, Mrs. Greifer, Ms. Iannazzi, Mr. Lupino, Mr. Palumbo, Mr. Stycos, and Mr. Traficante. Also present were Mr. Scherza, Mr. Balducci, and Mr. Votto. Mrs. Ciarlo was absent due to illness.

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. It was moved by Mr. Lupino, seconded by Mrs. Greifer and unanimously carried that the members adjourn to Executive Session to discuss personnel pursuant to RI State Laws 42-46-5(1) and contract and litigation pursuant to 42-46-5(2).

The meeting reconvened at 7:32 p.m.

The roll was called and the Pledge of Allegiance conducted.

Moved by Mr. Lupino, seconded by Mr. Traficante and unanimously carried that the April 11, 2005 Executive Session minutes remain confidential.

I. COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Palumbo asked Ms. Susan Bryan, Director of Library Media Services, to come forward. He stated that recently the library teachers of the Library Media Services created a slogan “School libraries and learning go hand in hand” . To capture the essence of the pre-K through Grade 12 program, the teacher promotes literacy to both students, staff, and the community. Students from throughout the district were asked to graphically represent the slogan. Over 400 entries were received and categorized into elementary, middle and high school entries. After the initial department screening, members of the School Committee reviewed the entries at each grade level and voted on the entries they thought best represented the slogan. The graphics will be used on book marks, on the Summer Reading List, as well as on the school library websites and other publications. We are pleased to acknowledge the winners and asked them to come forward to receive a certificate. To show their appreciation for the students’ efforts, the Library Media Services Department purchased gift certificates to Borders Book Store. The winners are: Elementary Level – Nora Downing, Grade 4, Garden City School; Middle School

Level – Samantha Chanphom, Grade 6, Bain Middle School; High School Level – Ashley Soule, Grade 12, Cranston High School West. Ms. Bryan presented a certificate to Ashley Soule who was present at this meeting. Ms. Bryan, on behalf of the entire Library Media Services staff, presented a T shirt with the logo to each School Committee member.

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Mr. Palumbo announced to the public that because of the budget situation that the committee is going through at the present time, the School Committee has decided to hold all hirings and actually any expenses they possibly can. They will be held back until the committee is able to view what they will have to deal with in terms of the budget. Some of the resolutions before the committee at this meeting will either be amended or tabled for this reason.

Mr. Lupino stated that he spoke with Mr. George David, who represents the Cranston Education Foundation. This foundation is a not for profit group that has been a valuable resource to many children and teachers in the district since its inception. It was created by resolution by Mr. Giammarco a few years ago. Mr. David has done a fine job with his staff of raising funds with Cranstonopoly and various wine tastings through the years. It was sad to say that due to certain circumstances Mr. David is the only active member in the Cranston Education Foundation.

Mr. David stated the Foundation is looking for anyone who is willing to give of themselves. The Foundation, over the past six years, has raised approximately \$100,000 for Cranston Public Schools. He wouldn't want to see that go away. With budgetary concerns, he was sure the committee could use the money. He doesn't want any connection with the schools or the School Committee; they have to stay privately funded. He hoped the committee would know someone who is looking for something to do at night. It is not a full-time job. He is looking for anyone who wants to feel good about themselves. Mr. David said that his home phone number is 946-0766.

Ms. Iannazzi reported that last week marked Reading Week. She recognized that Principals Cole and Josephs were in the audience. She thanked them as well as Principal Lepore at Orchard Farms School for inviting her to read to their elementary school students. The more she visits the schools in Cranston, the more amazed she is at the level of professionalism demonstrated by the faculty and staff. She thanked the teachers at Woodridge, Garden City, and Orchard Farms Schools for their continued devotion to educating Cranston's children.

Mrs. Greifer reported that on Saturday evening she had the pleasure of attending the 75th Anniversary Celebration at Bain Middle School. It was an evening that was wonderfully done. A lot of hard work went into putting the whole event together. The classrooms were

decorated for many decades. She felt particularly comfortable in the 70's. She as well as everyone else enjoyed themselves.

Mr. Stycos stated that at the last meeting the committee had a discussion regarding the budget revisions. At the meeting of the Performance Audit Committee, he raised some of the concerns that people had voiced here and asked them how the budget revision could be made more understandable. They suggested that there be broad categories in addition to the line-by-line changes. Mr. Stycos said that he will introduce a resolution that when the budget revisions come to the committee that it have included in it, in addition to what is included now, the net change in the following categories: certified personnel, non-certified personnel, outside special education tuition, texts, supplies and materials, and everything else. He would look forward to discussing it if other committee members can think of other categories that they think would be good. The idea is to get a snapshot of what is going on. Where is the money being moved during

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the year because of changing circumstances – is it in the special education tuition account or is the district hiring new people. It would be a good tool for the committee to have, and this is the reason Mr. Stycos is proposing it as a resolution.

Secondly, Mr. Stycos commented that when the committee discussed the budget, he believed it was Mr. Traficante who recommended at a work session that the committee discuss the guidance situation particularly as it is related to the high schools. He asked that this be discussed at the committee's next work session. It is an important issue that needs discussion.

Mr. Traficante made a plea to all the principals and PTO's to please attend the May 2nd budget hearing. The Cranston School Committee will be presenting the proposed school budget to the Cranston City Council. The committee has a tremendous task before them. Right now they are looking at a short fall anywhere from \$7 million to \$8 million. The public knows what \$7 million or \$8 million means in terms of personnel, activities, supplies, and transportation. Everything is on the table. He urged them to be there. He asked the principals to encourage their PTO's to be there as well. The committee needs every bit it can possibly get. He urged them to speak with their City Council members and the Mayor because the committee is facing a crisis right now. The crisis is even worse than last year. The district faced the problem last year and overcame it. As Mrs. Ciarlo had said earlier, "The elastic band is about to break." Unless the committee obtains substantial dollars from the City Council, they are facing substantial cuts in areas that he doesn't want to think about.

Mr. Palumbo asked Mr. Balducci to address Mr. Stycos's earlier

comments regarding the budget revision. Mr. Balducci stated that there is something that is referred to as an Executive Summary already. It is a memo that comes out of his office addressed to the Superintendent that identifies the major changes in the revision process, both on the revenue side and the expenditure side. It identifies the main categories where the committee will see substantial dollars moved from one account to another, whether they be special education outside tuitions, and in the case of the first budget revisions it was salaries; and that is identified as one of the areas where money is transferred. During this time of the year, the focus is usually on utilities because the district is coming out of the winter months, and he has a better handle on what is being spent in that area. Whether or not it is called an Executive Summary, it serves the same purpose. He doesn't have a problem referring to it now as an Executive Summary. The areas that Mr. Stycos would like to identify he can accommodate. It is up to the committee whether or not they feel it is a need they want to address.

Mr. Lupino reported that several months ago the former School Committee had a presentation made by a company called EdSolutions. He has been advocating for an expansion of the school day for after-school programs for a few years. The committee finally found someone who would come in and try to get that program going. There was a presentation given to the School Committee at that time.

Since that time, the committee lost communication with that company. Part of the reason is due to the fact that EdSolutions was

purchased by another company who has been in this business for many years called Knowledge Learning Corp. Their website is Knowledge Learning Corporation.com. He spoke with Robin Dold who is the new representative for this area. They run after-school programs throughout the country and currently running

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many in Massachusetts as close as Seekonk, Massachusetts. They are willing to come in to give an additional presentation to the four new members of the School Committee so that they could make a decision whether or not this is something the committee would like to pursue. There were several elementary principals at that meeting who included Mrs. Gamba, Mrs. Lundsten, and Mrs. Mulligan. They were all interested in pursuing this at their schools. The committee has had several requests from parents. It is a program that does not require any capital outlay from the district. There is a cost association with the parents, but it is not just a babysitting service. It is a program that has a certified teacher, an assistant, and various helpers who work in this program. According to Robin Dold, the only difference in the component that EdSolutions had and this one is that they had a need to expand the physical education portion of it. It is offered after school in the child's school, or it would have to be discussed if the committee would want to bus children from one school to another. That would be the district's only responsibility if the committee decided to do this. He mentioned it to Mr. Palumbo,

and he hoped his colleagues would look at this program.

To follow up on Mr. Traficante's earlier comments regarding the budget hearing, Mr. Stycos commented that the hearing will take place at 6:30 p.m. on May 2nd at Cranston High School West.

II. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

III. MINUTES – March 16, 2005; March 21, 2005

Moved by Mr. Lupino, seconded by Mr. Traficante and unanimously carried that the March 16, 2005 and March 21, 2005 minutes be approved.

IV. SPEAKERS – Agenda Items

Peter Nero, Principal, Western Hills Middle School – He spoke on Resolution No. 05-4-11. He stated that at the beginning of last year, the following teachers retired from Western Hills: Kathy Kawan, James Howarth, Al Otto, and Denise Haigh. Since last month and this month, the following teachers will retire: Kathy DiSegna, Paula

Malloy, Charlene Haley, Jackie Ralston, Thomas Kane, John Mansella, and Joe Picano. It is a lot of teachers to lose in a fourteen-month period, and a lot of real good teachers. In 1985 these teachers were involved in helping Western Hills become a Presidential School of Excellence. In 1999-2000 the school had an excellent SALT Report, and in 2001-2002, Western Hills became a high performing school. In 2003-2004, Western Hills became a high performing and improving school. They will be a great loss to the education on the western side of this city. He knows that the committee realizes many of the teachers are the agenda tonight, and they will be missed.

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V. CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Palumbo stated that the committee would dispense with the Consent Agenda for this meeting.

VI. RESOLUTIONS

SPONSORED BY THE COMMITTEE AND ADMINISTRATION

NO. 05-4-1 – Whereas, Michael C. Traficante has performed the duties of Athletic Coordinator for Cranston High School East and Cranston High School West for the past four years, and

Whereas, under Mr. Traficante's leadership, the high school teams have accomplished a record of twenty-seven State and/or Division Championships, and

Whereas, the Rhode Island Interscholastic Athletic Administrators' Association has chosen Mr. Traficante as this year's recipient of the RIIAAA's Athletic Director of the Year Award, and

Whereas, Mr. Traficante was honored at the RIIAAA's Annual Awards Banquet held Wednesday, April 6, 2005, at Rhodes-on-the Pawtuxet,

Be it RESOLVED that Michael C. Traficante be recognized by the Cranston School Committee for his dedication and hard work in the area of athletics and on being recognized by the RIIAAA as Athletic Director of the Year, and

Be it further RESOLVED that he be presented with a copy of this Resolution signed by the members of the Cranston School Committee.

Moved by Mr. Lupino and seconded by Mrs. Greifer that this Resolution be adopted.

Mr. Lupino read the Resolution and presented it to Mr. Traficante. A photograph was taken.

Mr. Lupino commented that there are many districts in this state that have an athletic director for each school. In Cranston, the district has someone who is handling two of the largest high schools in the state and doing a heck of a job. He does it primarily because he comes to work every day as a husband and a parent and secondly as a sports parent who has been there. He understands athletics from the other side – the side that is somewhat difficult to deal with. Not only does Mr. Traficante do his job well but also he attends as many events as possible. Mr. Lupino attended a softball game last week, and Mr. Traficante was there. He attended a hockey game on a Saturday night, and Mr. Traficante was at the game. He attends to make sure that things are getting done. Mr. Lupino is very proud to say that he knows Mr. Traficante, and he is glad that he was recognized as Athletic Director of the Year.

This Resolution was adopted unanimously.

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SPONSORED BY THE COMMITTEE AND ADMINISTRATION

NO. 05-4-2 – Whereas, Steven Stoeher did an outstanding job as Head Coach of the Cranston High School West varsity football team during the 2004 fall sports season, and

Whereas, guiding his team to a 9-1 regular season record and a 12-1 overall record which included a very impressive 19-0 win over Cranston High School East in a great Thanksgiving Day Game as well as their very first Division I playoff victory over an excellent Portsmouth team 14-13, and

Whereas, through his continued hard work, endless preparation, and dedication throughout the entire football season helped Cranston High School West capture their very first Division I State Title by defeating LaSalle Academy 28-14 in the Division I Super Bowl in front of a packed Pierce Field predominately made up of fans dressed in red and gray, and

Whereas, because of his teams outstanding accomplishments throughout the entire football season, Steven has been recognized as the Rhode Island Interscholastic Athletic Administrators' Association Male Coach of the Year,

Be it RESOLVED that Steven Stoehr be congratulated by the Cranston School Committee for his hard work and dedication to the sport of football, and

Be it further RESOLVED that he be presented with a copy of this Resolution signed by the members of the Cranston School Committee.

Moved by Mrs. Greifer and seconded by Mr. Traficante that this Resolution be adopted.

Mr. Traficante read the Resolution and presented it to Mr. Stoehr. A photograph was taken.

Mr. Lupino commented that he was proud to say that he knew Mr. Stoehr. It has been a wonderful year for that team, and it has been a lot of hard work. Mr. Lupino was sure that Mr. Stoehr was accepting this not only for himself but also for the support he gets from his coaches and his team. He is well deserving of this.

Mr. Traficante noted that the State Super Bowl title began in 1972. In thirty-three years, five Cranston football teams have gone to the Super Bowl game. This is quite a feat, and he congratulated Mr. Stoehr for this honor. He thanked him for a job well done.

This Resolution was adopted unanimously.

SPONSORED BY MR. LUPINO

NO. 05-4-3 – RESOLVED, that Policy No. 5118.7, Affirmation of Residency Affidavit, be approved for first reading.

Moved by Ms. Iannazzi and seconded by Mr. Lupino that this Resolution be adopted.

Mr. Lupino read the Affirmation of Residency Affidavit proposed School Committee policy to the committee. He noted that previously Mr. Stycos talked about tools that the committee needs, and this is an invaluable tool. This came out of something that former Assistant Superintendent Cofone used when there was quite a bit of undeveloped land in western Cranston, and people were coming in from Providence and West Warwick who said they had intentions of building on that land, and they wanted their children to attend schools in Cranston even though they didn't live here. Mr. Cofone started a policy of having the parents sign an affidavit that said if they could supply a certificate of occupancy by a certain time they would not be charged tuition. Mr. Cofone would actually take a check from them. If they presented the certificate of occupancy to him, they would get their check back. He doesn't think it will generate a substantial amount of dollars, but it will be a deterrent. He knows that some of the figures Mr. Flynn, City Planner, has presented in the past has caused some concern as to why there is such a large increase in population at Cranston High School East when he doesn't see that same population at the elementary and middle school levels. This will be another tool whereby someone will have a second thought about entering a child in Cranston schools without paying their dues.

Mrs. Greifer stated that she would be interested in knowing if this affidavit was run by legal counsel, and Mr. Lupino responded that Attorney Piccirilli had reviewed it. He in turn gave it to someone else to look over. The affidavit was a boiler plate situation, and he added some items to the affidavit that makes it legally sound. The reason the committee is voting on it this evening is due to the fact that it is a policy and it has to be read twice. Planners have to be printed very soon, and this would be included along with the discipline statement to make sure that every parent or potential caretaker receives this.

Mr. Stycos asked if there are other communities doing this type of thing, and Mr. Lupino responded that Mr. Scherza is aware of several communities that have this policy. Mr. Scherza added that the affidavit was procured from another community and edited for Cranston's needs. There are a number of school communities that have similar affidavits, and in one case an identical one. Mr. Stycos stated that when this originally came up, there was discussion about doing a number of things to combat this problem. One of them was central registration. Mr. Scherza stated that Mr. Lupino has been working on this affidavit with him for some time. Other public officials had expressed their concerns as well. In addition to this activity, the truant officer is working on a number of pieces, and the school principals are very vigilant. Administration regularly receives calls from neighbors and parents who regularly turn in individuals who they believe are not residents of the City of Cranston. When it is

verified that someone is not a resident, they are asked to leave the district. Mr. Stycos asked how many situations there are such as this per year, and Mr. Scherza felt that he has authorized in his first year in Cranston 100 plus removals. Not a week goes by that there is not one or two families or individuals reporting to administration. Mr. Stycos asked if central registration would be held this summer, and Mr. Scherza said that he is working on it at the present time. He is working out the logistics with Mr. Dillon, Data Base Manager. He is planning on doing central registration during the summer, and if it works well, he will be looking to relieve some of the schools from that responsibility for consistency reasons in doing it year round. If there is an ESL or a busing issue or a truant officer verification required, it can be taken care of immediately. Mr. Lupino noted that he was proposing adding on a part-time truant officer position, but it would be tabled at this

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meeting for a future time. Currently the district has a retired police officer who does this. Because of retirement and pension considerations, he is a part-time employee and can work only a certain number of hours per week without jeopardizing his pension. He is a former police officer and does a very good job for Cranston. He works Saturdays and Sundays to accomplish what he does. He is stretched out at the moment. There are 1,900 students at Cranston West and 1,600 plus at Cranston East. He also handles all the

elementary schools. With the next resolution, he was proposing to add another part-time unbenefited position. The present officer works approximately twenty hours per week. Mr. Scherza added the truant officer also represents the district at Family Court and Truancy Court. He saves a lot of time out of the building for the administrators on issues such as this. With the verification process, many parents aren't home during the day, and he visits the homes in the evenings and on weekends.

Mr. Palumbo noted that because the City Planner couldn't figure out why the population numbers didn't go the way he thought they should go, hundreds were coming from out of the system. Administration would not be able to ferret out any of these students unless there is someone dedicated to it. This is the reason for the part-time person in the next resolution. However, because of what Mr. Palumbo said at the beginning of this meeting regarding the budget constraints for next year, that resolution would be tabled.

Mr. Traficante asked if the truant officer would follow up on each affidavit, and Mrs. Scherza responded that it would depend on the type of verification for residency. The normal practice is to accept a utility bill. If someone has just moved in, that person would not have a utility bill.

This Resolution was adopted unanimously.

SPONSORED BY MR. LUPINO

NO. 05-4-4 - RESOLVED that an additional appropriation of approximately \$10,000 be budgeted for the purpose of hiring another part-time, non-benefited truant officer to expand the truancy enforcement effort and to enforce Resolution No. 05-4-3. This Resolution shall be adopted contingent upon the adoption of Resolution No. 05-4-3.

Moved by Mr. Lupino, seconded by Mr. Traficante and unanimously carried that this Resolution be tabled.

Moved by Mr. Lupino and seconded by Mr. Traficante to consider Resolution No.'s 05-4-5, 05-4-6, 05-4-7, 05-4-8 and 05-4-9 as one vote. This was adopted unanimously.

ADMINISTRATION

PERSONNEL

NO. 05-4-5 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of elementary principal, be approved.

NO. 05-4-6 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of elementary principal, be approved.

NO. 05-4-7 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of elementary principal, be approved.

NO. 05-4-8 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of elementary principal, be approved.

NO. 05-4-9 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the appointment of elementary principal, be approved.

Moved by Ms. Iannazzi, seconded by Mr. Traficante and carried that Resolution No.'s 05-4-5, 05-4-6, 05-4-7, 05-4-8, and 05-4-9 be tabled. Mrs. Greifer, Mr. Lupino, and Mr. Palumbo were opposed.

NO. 05-4-10 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:

Lee Ann Freitas General Subject, K-12

Jeffrey Hornoff General Subject, K-12

Peter Zanfagna Physical Education and Health

Joan Robley Consumer Science

Lesa Volpe Elementary, 1-6

John Garcia III Elementary, 1-6

Michael Venagro Physical Education, PK-12

Katharine Anderson English

Nicholas Ruggieri General Subject, K-12

Moved by Mr. Lupino and seconded by Mr. Traficante that this Resolution be adopted.

Mr. Lupino commented that it was always nice to see recent graduates of Cranston's two high schools coming back to the fold. There are several names on this list who graduated four or five years ago from the high schools.

Mr. Palumbo noted that this Resolution does not cost the district any additional dollars. It is making the list longer for those substitutes who can be called.

This Resolution was adopted unanimously.

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NO. 05-4-11 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the retirement of the following certified personnel be accepted:

Jacqueline Hurley, Nurse-Teacher

Special Services

Effective Date: June 30, 2005

Muriel Townsend, Art

Cranston High School West

Effective Date: June 30, 2005

Barbara DiNunzio-Hall, Elementary

Stone Hill School

Effective Date: June 30, 2005

Carolyn Davenport, Elementary

Rhodes School

Effective Date: June 30, 2005

Walter R. Jeschke, Elementary

Edgewood Highlands School

Effective Date: June 30, 2005

Charlene Haley, Mathematics

Western Hills Middle School

Effective Date: June 30, 2005

Jacqueline A. Ralston, Social Studies

Western Hills Middle School

Effective Date: June 30, 2005

Judith Dole, Guidance

Elementary

Effective Date: June 30, 2005

Thomas Kane, Guidance

Western Hills Middle School

Effective Date: June 30, 2005

Paula Munko, Special Education

Garden City School

Effective Date: June 30, 2005

Judith Bruzzese, Guidance

Elementary

Effective Date: June 30, 2005

Evelyn Baker, Reading

Itinerant

Effective Date: June 30, 2005

John Mansella, Social Studies

Western Hills Middle School

Effective Date: June 30, 2005

Joseph Picano, Physical Education and Health

Western Hills Middle School

Effective Date: June 30, 2005

Moved by Mr. Lupino and seconded by Mrs. Greifer that this Resolution be adopted.

Mr. Lupino stated that as he looked through this list there is a lot of experience. Several teachers he knows have been around for a while.

There are some his son had at Western Hills who were very qualified teachers and went beyond their realm. Paul Munko will be a definite loss to the system. Sometimes a person's perception of when to leave is much sooner than the people around her. No one thinks Paula should retire except Paula, and that is her decision to make.

She will be missed. His son had Mickey Townsend at Cranston West, but so did his wife and so did he. He stills remembers sitting in her class and being bored at what she could bring out of him. He was sorry to see her go.

Mr. Scherza commented that obviously he wasn't Catherine Ciarlo. She is not feeling well and sends her apologies and good wishes. She did take the time to develop some remarks about the people on this resolution. This resolution constitutes 430 years of teaching experience cumulatively. Joseph Picano spent 29 years in this district as a health and physical education teacher at Western Hills. He was a coach for 26 years, 19 at Cranston East and 7 at Cranston West. Charlene Haley spent 34 years in Cranston as a mathematics teacher at Western Hills. She has been department chair at Western Hills and has been at that school since 1971. Jacqueline Hurley has spent the last 18 years, most of them as Supervisor of Nursing. She has most recently been the nurse at Stone Hill School. She has been a program supervisor, nurse teacher and has served at various elementary schools and Bain Middle School. Muriel Townsend for 28 years has served as an art teacher. She spent some time at Cranston West, Park View, and Cranston East. Barbara DiNunzio-Hall has been an elementary teacher at Stone Hill School for 34 years. Carolyn Davenport has spent 27 years as an elementary teacher at Rhodes School. Walter Jeschke has been an elementary teacher at Edgewood Highlands School. Mr. Scherza had the opportunity to visit his class, and the district will be much worse off because of his

retirement. He has served at Waterman, Rhodes and Norwood Avenue Schools. Jacqueline Ralston has been a teacher for 36 years.

Presently she is teaching social studies at Western Hills and has spent some time at Bain and early on in her career was an elementary teacher. Judith Dole spent 27 years in Cranston, most recently as a guidance department itinerant at Glen Hills and Arlington Schools. She has also served Cranston as a special education resource teacher and an elementary teacher at Gladstone and Hope Highlands Schools. Thomas Kane has been the guidance department chairman at Western Hills. He has been at Western Hills since 1979, and before that time, served in elementary schools.

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Mr. Scherza has had an opportunity to sit in on Paula Munko's class to meet her and observe her. She is a remarkable teacher and spent 34 years in Cranston. She has been a special education teacher and a DLP teacher most recently at Garden City School. She has served the district at Rhodes and Woodridge Schools as well. Judith Bruzzese has been a teacher for 32 years in Cranston. He has been a guidance itinerant at Peters and Eden Park. She was a teacher at Stone Hill School and other schools before that. Evelyn Baker for 35 years has been a reading teacher and an elementary teacher. In addition to Arlington School, she has been a teacher at Peters and West View Schools. John Mansella has been a teacher for 35 years, most recently as the social studies department chair at Western Hills.

From 1989 until the present, he has been the social studies department chair at Western Hills. He was a social studies teacher up until 1989. He stated that all these teachers will be sadly missed. On behalf of the children of Cranston, he thanked them for 430 years.

This Resolution was adopted unanimously.

NO. 05-4-12 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following individuals be appointed as athletic coaches:

Jason Daniels, Assistant, Boys' Outdoor Track, Cranston High School West

Step – 4

Class – D

Playing Competition – High School and College

Experience – Assistant Track/Cross Country Coach, Coventry, Rhode Island

Certification – RI Coaches Certification; CPR/First Aid Certified

Erin Miga, Assistant, Boys' Volleyball, Cranston High School East

Step – 2

Class – D

Playing Competition – Cranston High School East/Rhode Island College

Experience – Assistant Girls' Volleyball Coach, Cranston High School

East

Certification – RI Coaches Certification; CPR/First Aid Certified

Moved by Mr. Lupino and seconded by Ms. Iannazzi that this Resolution be adopted.

Mr. Archetto asked if these positions were for this fiscal year and if the money had already been appropriated. Mr. Votto responded that the positions are for this fiscal year, and the money has been appropriated.

This Resolution was adopted unanimously.

NO. 05-4-13 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignation of the following coach be accepted:

Bradley Kaffenberger, Head Boys' Soccer

Cranston High School West

Effective Date: April 11, 2005

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Moved by Mr. Lupino, seconded by Ms. Iannazzi and unanimously carried that this Resolution be adopted.

NO. 05-4-14 – RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified employee be recalled from layoff:

Karen Harrop, Teacher Assistant

Gladstone School

Effective Date: April 25, 2005

Moved by Mr. Lupino, seconded by Ms. Iannazzi and unanimously carried that this Resolution be adopted.

NO. 05-4-15 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following non-certified employees be appointed:

Marie Noel, Bus Monitor

Transportation

Effective Date of Employment: March 21, 2005

Fiscal Note: 14347518 518600

Carmelite Massena, Bus Monitor

Transportation

Effective Date of Employment: March 21, 2005

Fiscal Note: 14347518 518600

Manuel Rodriguez, Bus Monitor

Transportation

Effective Date of Employment: March 21, 2005

Fiscal Note: 14347518 518600

Carol Ziobrowski, Bus Monitor

Transportation

Effective Date of Employment: March 21, 2005

Fiscal Note: 14347518 518600

Margarita Vanhoolandt, Three-hour Food Service Worker

Food Service

Effective Date of Employment: March 30, 2005

Fiscal Note: 30847179 511000

Joyce Cerullo, Three-Hour Food Service Worker

Food Service

Effective Date of Employment: March 30, 2005

Fiscal Note: 33047179 511000

Moved by Mr. Lupino, seconded by Ms. Iannazzi and unanimously carried that this Resolution be adopted.

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NO. 05-4-16 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the

Superintendent, the following non-certified personnel be appointed as substitutes on a temporary basis as needed:

SECRETARY

Paula Holt

CUSTODIAN

Armand Brochu

Moved by Mr. Lupino, seconded by Ms. Iannazzi and unanimously carried that this Resolution be adopted.

NO. 05-4-17 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the resignations of the following non-certified personnel be accepted:

Donna Darling, Bus Driver

Transportation

Effective Date: April 3, 2005

Joseph Cardilli, Jr., Four-hour Custodian

Plant

Effective Date: April 1, 2005

Nilda Silverio, Three-hour Food Service Worker

Food Service

Effective Date: April 1, 2005

Josefa German, Three-hour Food Service Worker

Food Service

Effective Date: March 30, 2005

Moved by Mr. Lupino, seconded by Mrs. Greifer and unanimously carried that this Resolution be adopted.

GRANTS

NO. 05-4-18 - RESOLVED, that the Cranston Public Schools submit to the Rhode Island Department of Education, the following grant:

**Enhancing Education through Technology, Model \$118,314.63
Classroom Initiative**

Moved by Mr. Lupino, seconded by Mrs. Greifer and unanimously carried that this Resolution be adopted.

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BUSINESS

NO. 05-4-19 - RESOLVED, that the following purchases be approved:

Athletic Supplies in the amount of \$21,275.29.

Number of bids issued 33

Number of bids received 18

Pumping of Waste Water in the amount of \$6,992.50 per year for the period of July 1, 2005 thru June 30, 2008. Also, for the pumping of Sewer Ejector Tanks in the amount of \$660 per year and the pumping of Grease Traps in the amount of \$1,155 per year for the same period.

Number of bids issued 5

Number of bids received 2

Cleaning of Boilers in the amount of \$8,845 for 2005; \$9,212 in 2006; and \$9,597 in 2007.

Number of bids issued 3

Number of bids received 1

Health Consultant services at the following rates: \$19,139/year for 2005-2006; \$19,713.17/year for 2006-2007; \$20,304.56 for 2007-2008; and \$20,913.69 for 2008-2009.

Number of bids issued 4

Number of bids received 1

Plan Books in the amount of \$2,548.20

Number of bids issued 7

Number of bids received 3

Printed Forms in the amount of \$6,500.53

Number of bids issued 8

Number of bids received 3

Subscriptions in the amount of \$8,381.51

Number of bids issued 4

Number of bids received 3

Moved by Mr. Lupino and seconded by Mr. Traficante that this Resolution be adopted.

Mr. Lupino asked if the price for the plan books included the additional printing of the affidavit, and if not, could an amendment be submitted after it was issued. Mr. Balducci

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responded that these plan books are the ones given to the teachers

and not the planners given to the students. He will find out the final date for the affidavit to be included in the planners. Mr. Lupino noted that the committee has to vote on the affidavit one more time at the May 16th meeting.

Ms. Iannazzi stated that pursuant to Mr. Palumbo's opening remarks about not making any expenditures for the next fiscal year, she moved to amend this resolution to remove the health consultant services and the cleaning of boilers from this resolution.

Mr. Stycos seconded the motion.

Mr. Traficante stated that the pumping of the waste water should be included as well.

Ms. Iannazzi agreed to add pumping of the waste water to her amendment.

Mr. Lupino stated that someone should notify Hope Highlands School not to flush the toilets.

Mr. Lupino stated that the amendment now reads to delete pumping of the waste water, cleaning of the boilers and health consultant.

Mr. Stycos asked if by doing this it could endanger any of these prices or notify the people that the contracts haven't been awarded

yet, and the committee will be discussing it in May or June. In response, Mr. Balducci indicated that these prices are good from 90 to 120 days. His concern regarding the cleaning of the boilers is that this is done during the summer months so that the schools will be ready when the heat is turned back on. That is why administration likes to have the contractor on board now so that when the boilers are shut down, they can come in to get the boilers ready for the winter season. The same holds true for the pumping of the waste water. A lot of that is done while the schools are in recess as far as cleaning the traps and getting it ready for the upcoming school year. This is not to say that this can't be revisited again next month. Hopefully these contracts will be in place July 1st.

Mr. Lupino stated that if there is a motion to table these items or to remove them is the fact that they might save this amount of money by not cleaning the boilers, they may end up spending twice the amount of cleaning in lost efficiency on the boilers. Gas boilers will continue to run; they should be tuned up on a yearly basis, but they will continue to run but less efficiently. Oil fired boilers will stop running especially large commercial boilers, and they definitely need to be cleaned. This is not money that will be saved later on. It will cost that much, if not more, in repairs.

Mr. Balducci referred to the services of the health care consultant and noted that this company works for the school department all year long. Claims are processed during the summer months. They

continue to have issues with their carriers, whether it be health and dental, and this is a year-round service that is greatly needed for a district this large. The committee has the prerogative to table it this evening, but before the fiscal year is over, he hoped that the service is approved.

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Mr. Stycos asked if any discussions were held with City Hall regarding a joint bid on such things as cleaning boilers or a health care consultant. Mr. Balducci responded that in the case of a health care consultant, the city actually piggy backed off the school department. They utilized the services of Group Benefit Strategies themselves after they found out who was doing it for us. Once this bid was opened, he contacted the city purchasing agent so they will be negotiating with that health consultant right now. He doesn't know about the cleaning of the boilers, but he will investigate it for him. Mr. Stycos stated that he believed the Public Works Department has a waste water problem, and they might be interested in piggy backing on that item.

Mr. Archetto stated that it was his understanding that the committee has every intent of cleaning the boilers, but the committee is voting to postpone until they have received the final numbers. Mr. Palumbo

responded that this is what the committee has been saying.

Mr. Lupino referred to the pumping of waste water and asked if the \$1,155 per year for the grease traps was identified under the Food Service budget. Mr. Balducci responded that this is an expense that is absorbed by the Food Service budget.

This Amendment was adopted with Mr. Lupino and Mr. Palumbo opposed.

This Resolution as amended was adopted with Mrs. Greifer, Mr. Lupino, and Mr. Palumbo opposed.

This Resolution now reads:

NO. 05-4-19 - RESOLVED, that the following purchases be approved:

Athletic Supplies in the amount of \$21,275.29.

Number of bids issued 33

Number of bids received 18

Plan Books in the amount of \$2,548.20

Number of bids issued 7

Number of bids received 3

Printed Forms in the amount of \$6,500.53

Number of bids issued 8

Number of bids received 3

Subscriptions in the amount of \$8,381.51

Number of bids issued 4

Number of bids received 3

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NO. 05-4-20 - RESOLVED, that the following Grant purchases be approved:

Automotive Tools in the amount of \$9,722.04 (funding from the Perkins Grant.)

Number of bids issued 18

Number of bids received 4

Moved by Mr. Lupino, seconded by Ms. Iannazzi and unanimously carried that this Resolution be adopted.

POLICY AND PROGRAM

NO. 05-4-21 - Whereas, the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Inc. requires that the Cranston School Committee adopt the Mission Statement for Cranston High School West,

Be it RESOLVED that the Cranston School Committee adopt the following Mission Statement:

The mission of Cranston High School West is to empower and support all students to become responsible for their learning, to strive to reach their potential, to become a community of diverse learners, to treat others with courtesy and respect, and to become productive members of our society.

Administration:

The Cranston High School West administrative leadership team is committed to fostering a safe, personalized, learning environment that supports quality and creative instructional strategies and a variety of assessment practices that enable our students to demonstrate proficiency in both content and school-wide expectations.

Faculty:

The Cranston High School West Faculty is committed to providing quality instructional programs that foster growth in knowledge of core concepts and develop both higher order thinking skills and

problem solving strategies in a personalized environment.

Student:

The Cranston High School West student body is committed to striving for academic excellence by being accountable for its learning, by applying its knowledge to real world situations, by demonstrating proficiency in social and school-wide expectations, and by adhering to approved school policies.

Community:

The Cranston High School West community, as educational partners with administration, faculty, and students, is committed to participating in various school and community groups, by advocating appropriate funding, by encouraging students to be responsible for their choices, and by providing students with site-based learning opportunities.

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Moved by Mr. Lupino, seconded by Ms. Iannazzi and unanimously carried that this Resolution be adopted.

NO. 05-4-22 RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Superintendent, the revised curriculum guide and framework in the area of English Language Arts for Grades 6 through 12, be approved

for second and final reading.

Moved by Mr. Lupino and seconded by Mrs. Greifer that this Resolution be adopted.

Mr. Stycos asked Mr. Laliberte if he were able to look into his question regarding requiring summer reading for college preparatory and/or comprehensive students. In response, Mr. Laliberte said that the school district has tried it in the past. It can't be enforced by law that the students have to be required to read something in the summer. In a program such as the Honors Program or the AP Program, the district can require the summer reading because it is a choice for those students to be in those courses. However, in the regular courses it is not allowed. Mr. Stycos asked if it were a choice to be in a college preparatory program, and Mr. Laliberte indicated that the district is aiming for all students to be in those classes at this point in time. The students can't be rewarded for it being a part of their grade because it is not enforceable by law. The curriculum goes from September to June, and the parents will complain that the school department has no right to demand students to do things during the summer months. It has been tried in the past, and it has failed. The district has developed a summer reading program that encourages all students to read. They are provided with an elementary list, a middle school list, and at the high school level, they are provided with a list for all levels. There are tasks to be completed for the AP students.

This Resolution was adopted unanimously.

NO. 05-4-23- RESOLVED, that Policy No. 4112.5, Athletic Coaches, be approved for second and final reading.

Moved by Mr. Lupino, seconded by Ms. Iannazzi and unanimously carried that this Resolution be tabled.

VII. SPEAKERS – Non-agenda Items

There were no speakers on non-agenda items.

Moved by Mr. Lupino, seconded by Mr. Archetto and unanimously carried that the meeting be adjourned.

**There being no further business to come before the meeting, it was adjourned at
8:42 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony J. Lupino

Clerk

PERSONNEL 4112.5

ATHLETIC COACHES

All coaching positions, not just new positions or those in which the incumbent had decided he/she was not interested in reappointment will be adequately posted in each school building by the Superintendent. The position may at the discretion of the Athletic Director be advertised in a local newspaper.

Positions covered by this article shall be filled on the basis of the best qualified person available. Qualified person is defined as an applicant with knowledge and experience in the particular sport.

Coaches will be evaluated by the Athletic Director and Principal.

A coach will be evaluated yearly.

After a formal evaluation, the evaluators and the coach will agree on a time for a conference to be held as soon as practicable.

A coach will be allowed to review a copy of the evaluation and will have the right to discuss said evaluation with their evaluators and initial said evaluation before the evaluation is placed in their personnel files.

Any complaints regarding a coach, made to the administration by any parent, student, or other person, which is considered in evaluating said coach will be promptly shared with said coach.

A satisfactory evaluation is required for a coach to be considered for appointment to a new position or a reappointment to their previous coaching assignment.

The Athletic Director will provide the coach with a copy of the position's requirements. The coach will sign acknowledging receipt of said document.

Failure to comply with the requirements will result in the coach not being reappointed.

Policy Adopted: _____ CRANSTON PUBLIC

SCHOOLS

Resolution No. _____ CRANSTON, RI
5118.7

STUDENTS

AFFIRMATION OF RESIDENCY AFFIDAVIT

The Cranston Public Schools has constantly established a reputation for excellence, and due to their success and Cranston's proximity to other urban areas, Cranston Public Schools may occasionally attract students who may not live in Cranston.

The committee hereby authorizes the Superintendent to include and require the attached affidavit (see Exhibit A) to be signed (along with the disciplinary code letter of understanding) at the beginning of each school year, or, in the case of new students entering during the school year, before such students are admitted.

This affidavit should identify the student, his or her parent, guardian, or approved caretaker along with the legal Cranston address where the student resides. This shall be a legally binding agreement for the

liability of payment of out-of-district tuition (as set by the committee) by the parent, guardian, or caretaker should it be determined that the student does not reside in Cranston. The student will be automatically demitted from the school and may not be re-admitted until such time as proof of residency is made.

This affidavit would exclude those out-of-district students who attend the Cranston Area Career & Technical Center, the New England Laborers'/Cranston Public Schools' Construction Career Academy, or any out-of-district students attending Cranston Public Schools under state and federal mandates.

**Policy Adopted: _____ CRANSTON PUBLIC
SCHOOLS**

Resolution No.: _____ CRANSTON, RI

5118.7

(Exhibit A)

**CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
AFFIDAVIT**

Caution: Read this statement carefully before signing. This document requires you to provide information which, if not true, could make you responsible for the payment of tuition for your child to attend the Cranston Public Schools.

**I.
I, _____, affirm that

(name) (child's
name)**

whose birth date is _____resides

permanently with me at

(month/day/year)

**my residence at _____, in
the Cranston, RI**

(street address)

Public School District. I am the (check one):

_____ custodial parent

_____ legal guardian

_____ state appointed custodian

**_____ person responsible for the child who resides with me for other
than**

the sole purpose of attending the Cranston Public Schools

**of the above-named child. Submitted with this statement, if
applicable, is a certified copy of a court order granting me custody,
legal guardianship, or temporary state custody of the above-named
child.**

II.

I understand that only legal residents of the City of Cranston, who are otherwise eligible, are entitled to be educated by the City of Cranston without charge.

III.

If any of the information above ceases to be true, I shall immediately notify the Cranston Public Schools in writing and, if the child is permitted to remain in the Cranston School System, I will be responsible for payment of tuition for the child at the prevailing district rate on a pro-rated basis (unless otherwise permitted to remain in the district by applicable law or regulation.) Such payment shall be charged from the date that any of the above information ceases to be true. Such tuition shall become immediately due and payable.

I affirm that the above statements are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge:

Signature

Date